

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/708,341	STRAASHEIJM, PIETER	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Erick Rekstad	2613	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE filed on March 28, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3,4 and 6-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 March 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|---|--|

DETAILED ACTION

This is an Allowance for application no. 09/708,341 in response to the RCE filed on March 28, 2005 in which claims 1, 3, 4, 6-12 are presented for examination.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-12 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The application contains a novel and unobvious method of finding motion vectors for use in MPEG video encoding in that the examiner was unable to find in several prior art searches.

US Patent 5,576,772 to Kondo describes a method of finding motion vectors for use in MPEG video encoding, the method comprising:

Generating from a full frame (Fig 9A), (i) a first scaled frame (Fig. 9B) having a reduced number of pixels as compared to the full frame and (ii) a second scaled frame (Fig. 9C) having a reduced number of pixels as compared to the first scaled frame;

Performing a first, full, best match search of the second scaled frame to identify rough motion vectors (Col. 8 Lines 27-57, Col. 9 Lines 50-51);

Performing a second best match search using the rough motion vectors identified by the first search, within a limited range in the x and y directions for each macroblock of the first scaled frame to identify intermediate motion vectors (Col.10 Lines 9-37, Fig. 10B); and

Performing a third best match search using the intermediate motion vectors identified by the second search within a limited range in the X and Y directions for each

macroblock of the full frame to identify final motion vectors (Col.10 Lines 41-67, Fig. 10C).

As shown in Figures 9A-9C, Kondo shows the third stage (Fig. 9C) contains one block that is produced from four blocks (Fig. 9A). Kondo does not teach the use of a reference block consisting of four scaled macroblocks of the scaled frame as claimed by the applicant. This feature taken with the others in the claims define over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erick Rekstad whose telephone number is 571-272-7338. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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PRIMARY EXAMINER